



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**KEY MEMBERS OF "FCI-BIG SPRING ALUMNI CLUB"
SENTENCED TO LENGTHY TERMS IN PRISON**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in Midland, Jose "Juni" Padilla and Gregory Leon Palmer, both key members of a major drug trafficking gang many have referred to as the "FCI-Big Spring Alumni Club," were both sentenced to 20 years in federal prison. The gang's leaders, Adrian Crook and Eli Carrillo, were previously sentenced to 30 years and 24 years plus 4 months incarceration, respectively.

According to the indictment, the leaders of the gang met while they were serving time at the federal prison in Big Spring, Texas, for drug trafficking offenses. When they were released, they worked together to establish themselves as major drug traffickers. According to court testimony, by November 2003, the gang was manufacturing and distributing three to five kilograms of crack cocaine a week in Midland, Odessa, Dallas, Lubbock, and San Angelo.

A federal grand jury indicted twenty-one members and associates of the gang in March 2005 for conspiracy to manufacture, distribute, and possess with intent to distribute more than fifty grams of crack cocaine. To date, twenty of them have been convicted. One is a fugitive.

The convictions are the result of a two year Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Texas Department of Public Safety. The Midland Police Department, Odessa Police Department, Monahans Police Department, Ector County Sheriff's Office, Midland County Sheriff's Office, San Angelo Drug Task Force, and West Texas Narcotics Enforcement Task Force also participated in the investigation. AUSA Glenn Roque Jackson prosecuted the case for the government.

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